

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed and considered the Examiner's Action mailed March 22, 2004, in which claims 5-8 and 12-21 were objected to as containing allowable subject matter. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the comments set forth below.

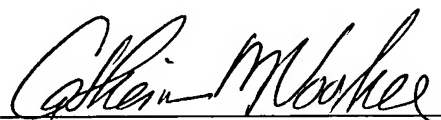
By this Amendment, claims 1-4 are cancelled and indicated allowable claims 5, 13 and 21 are rewritten in independent form included all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 9 is amended to depend from indicated allowable claim 21 so that claims 9-11 depend either directly or indirectly from an indicated allowable claim. Accordingly, claims 5-21 are pending in the instant application.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the objection and rejections of record be withdrawn and that a Notice of Allowance be issued indicating that claims 5-21 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Should the Examiner believe that a conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,

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